

An Update from Ms. Ponka: January 7, 2021

I know many of you may have been disappointed today to hear that our return to school has been delayed. I felt the same. We all understand that our safety is being observed but we were all looking forward to enjoying the company and comfort of sharing space and learning together in our beautiful school. Staying patient is difficult for all of us. Thank you Mackie students, parents, School Council, Mackie teachers and support staff for logging on and making our remote learning meaningful this week. At this time, we are scheduled to return to our School Building on January 25, 2021.

Throughout all of this, teachers are assessing learning and compiling data. They will be working on Term One Provincial Report Cards on Friday January 15. There will not be remote learning that PA day.

Report Cards will be sent home on February 9th, and parent/teacher interviews will take place on Feb 11th (eve) and 12th (am).

The survey for parents to indicate switch to virtual has now closed. Remember, as indicated on the initial survey letter, there is no guarantee that all students who apply will be provided a spot in Virtual School. I am waiting for updates from the board as per the next steps for those who applied.

I have had the opportunity to connect with many parents this week by email and phone call. I want to thank you for your feedback and acknowledgement of the hard work of our staff. Many of our staff are balancing a number of family responsibilities while maintaining teaching time with their classrooms. And we all continue to learn together how to make this platform more accessible and meaningful. We truly appreciate your support.

Please remember to log on to schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/georgemackie on a regular basis. Here we post Mackie Moments each Friday afternoon. Student Birthdays are also being recognized here too! The birthday bin will be busy when we finally return to school!

Mackie and LN16 welcome a new Acting Superintendent of Education, John Currie. Welcome Mr. Currie to our community. And in case you missed the announcement in December, the wonderful Ms. Chrzan has entered the world of Virtual School (we will miss you Heidi!) and we welcome the talented Ms. Katie O'Connor as temporary clerical support. Katie can be reached at Katherine.O'Connor@tdsb.on.ca and I can be reached at Shirley.ponka@tdsb.on.ca

Sincerely,

Ms. Ponka

